

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 QUITO 07718 211205Z

43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 064610

O 202337Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7673

S E C R E T QUITO 7718

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS PFOR EFIS EC US
SUBJECT: EASTERN PACIFIC FISHERIES INITIATIVE: DISCUSSION OF
SUGGESTIONS WITH VICE ADMIRAL POVEDA

REF: A. QUITO 7630
B. QUITO 7631
C. CNO DTG 181654Z OCT 75

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: I MET WITH ADMIRAL POVEDA OCTOBER 20. HE
RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE NEXT TUNA FISHING SEASON BEFORE I
COULD, AND WAS THOROUGHLY BRIEFED ON MY DISCUSSION WITH MFA
OFFICIALS. HE TOLD ME THAT HE (I.E., THE NAVY) WOULD RAISE THE
600 NRT LIMIT ON TUNA VESSELS WHICH COULD BUY LICENSES, REDUCE
THE PRICE OF MATRICULAS, AND ESTABLISH A SYSTEM FOR PURCHASING
LICENSES (AND POSSIBLE MATRICULAS) BY RADIO. WITH RESPECT TO
ACTIONS BY THE ECUADOREAN NAVY IN DEFENSE OF 200 MILES, POVEDA
TOLD ME HE WAS MEETING WITH HIS COUNCIL OF ADMIRALS TO
DISCUSS "PRUDENCE" DURING THE COMING SEASON. I AM
CONFIDENT HE IS ON BOARD AND WILL DO WHAT HE CAN TO AVOID A
RECURRENCE OF THE INCIDENTS EARLIER THIS YEAR. WHAT WE
FOR OUR PART NOW NEED TO DO IS PROCEED WITH THE ACTIONS I
SAID WE WOULD TAKE, SPECIFICALLY THE LETTER ON USG POLICY
TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF LICENSES. WE MUST ALSO ENSURE THAT
THESE DISCUSSIONS REMAIN SECRET. THE DEPARTMENT IS
REQUESTED TO TAKE THREE SPECIFIC ACTIONS NOW (PARA 11).

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 QUITO 07718 211205Z

END SUMMARY.

2. I MET AT 3:00 P.M. MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 WITH VICE ADMIRAL POVEDA TO DISCUSS OUR SUGGESTIONS ON HOW WE MIGHT GET PAST THE COMING TUNA FISHING SEASON.

3. FIRST I GAVE ADMIRAL POVEDA CNO HOLLOWAY'S LETTER (REF C) SAYING HE WAS GRATIFIED WITH THE RESULT OF THE MEETING WITH THE ECUADOREAN NAVAL COMMISSION RECENTLY IN WASHINGTON, STATING THAT HE HOPED ADMIRAL POVEDA MIGHT VISIT WASHINGTON HIMSELF "IN THE NEAR FUTURE", AND EXPRESSING THE WISH OF THE US NAVY THAT THESE MEETINGS "WILL SERVE TO PRESAGE AN EVEN CLOSER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR NAVIES IN THE FUTURE." THE LETTER COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE TIMELY OR FELICITOUSLY PHRASED. ADMIRAL POVEDA WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED AND SAID HE WOULD ANSWER IT IMMEDIATELY. WE THEN HAD A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF FOLLOW UP TO THE ECUADOREAN NAVAL COMMISSION VISIT, A SUBJECT COVERED IN A SEPARATE TELEGRAM.

4. THEN, BEFORE I COULD EVEN BROACH THE SUBJECT OF THE COMING TUNA SEASON, ADMIRAL POVEDA TOOK FROM HIS BRIEFCASE A COPY OF THE TALKING POINTS (SEE REF A) WHICH WE HAD FURNISHED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES ON OCTOBER 14 AND OPENED UP THE SUBJECT HIMSELF. HE SAID HE HAD HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THAT THEY HAD HAD VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS. THE ADMIRAL SAID THAT THIS, HOWEVER, WAS "NAVY BUSINESS", AND HE PROCEEDED TO TELL ME "WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO". IT IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. CHANGE THE 600 NRT LIMIT. HE DID NOT SAY IN WHAT FORM THIS WAS GOING TO BE DONE, BUT HE DID SAY HE HAD TOLD CAPT. ETIEL RODRIGUEZ, SUBSECRETARY FOR FISHERIES OF THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, TO MEET WITH HIM THIS SAME AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS THE MATTER. I INTERJECTED THAT BEFORE HE TOOK ACTION I WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT WHAT THE MAXIMUM TONNAGE OF ANY AMERICAN VESSEL WAS SO THAT WE COULD BE ASSURED THAT NONE WOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM THE NEW REGULATIONS. I TOLD THE ADMIRAL THAT I WOULD HAVE THIS INFORMATION FOR HIM THIS WEEK.

B. CHANGE THE COST OF THE MATRICULA FROM \$600 TO
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 QUITO 07718 211205Z

SOMETHING LOWER, POSSIBLY \$400.

C. MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF LICENSES (AND PRESUMABLY MATRICULAS, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SAY SO) BY RADIO. "WE WILL GIVE YOU THE FREQUENCIES AND THE HOURS WHEN THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE."

5. ADMIRAL POVEDA SAID THAT THEY WANTED TO TAKE THE ABOVE

ACTIONS AS "ONE PIECE", AND SOON, SINCE "THINGS ARE PILING UP ON US".

6. THE ADMIRAL THEN TURNED TO THE QUESTION OF THE ROLE OF THE ECUADOREAN NAVY DURING THIS COMING SEASON. HE SAID THAT HE WAS CALLING A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMIRALS TO DISCUSS THE EXERCISE OF "PRUDENCE" DURING THE FIS FNG SEASON. AS I COULD APPRECIATE, HE CONTINUED, THIS WAS A SUBJECT OF GREAT DELICACY FOR HIS GOVERNMENT AND FOR HIM PERSONALLY--THERE WERE PEOPLE AND INTERESTS WHO WOULD BE QUICK TO MAKE USE OF ANY INFORMATION THAT THE ECUADOREAN NAVY WAS NOT BEING VIGILANT.

7. I TOLD ADMIRAL POVEDA I WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE DELICACY OF THIS AND THAT MY SUGGESTIONS AND CONVERSATIONS HAD BEEN FRAMED WITH THIS VERY MUCH IN MIND. I SAID THAT THERE WERE TWO THINGS WHICH HAD OCCURRED TO ME IN CONNECTION WITH THE ECUADOREAN NAVY'S 200 MILE DUTIES. ONE WAS THAT OF GIVING A SHORT WARNING PERIOD, PERHAPS AN HOUR OR TWO, AFTER A BOAT WAS APPREHENDED IN ECUADOREAN CLAIMED WATERS BEFORE IT WAS PHYSICALLY SEIZED: THE BOAT COULD USE THIS PERIOD IN WHICH TO DECIDE WHETHER TO APPLY BY RADIO FOR A LICENSE OR TO SUBJECT ITSELF TO SEIZURE. THE OTHER WAS THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE SIMPLY TO ESCORT THE AMERICAN VESSEL OUT OF ECUADOREAN CLAIMED WATERS AS LONG AS NO ECUADOREAN SEAMEN OR OFFICIALS WERE PUT ON BOARD. I SAID THAT THE FIRST OF THESE PROPOSALS WOULD NOT TRIGGER OUR LEGISLATION, AND THAT I DID NOT THINK THE SECOND ONE WOULD EITHER, ALTHOUGH I WAS NOT ABSOLUTELY SURE.

8. THE ADMIRAL WROTE DOWN BOTH OF MY SUGGESTIONS, NODDING WHILE HE DID SO. HE COMMENTED THAT IF A SHIP WERE ESCORTED OUT OF ECUADOREAN CLAIMED WATERS IT WOULD THEN OF COURSE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 QUITO 07718 211205Z

BE FREE TO RETURN, A FACT WHICH I ACKNOWLEDGED. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE HOPED SOME IDEAS WOULD BE SUGGESTED NATURALLY AT THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF ADMIRALS.

9. WE CONCLUDED OUR CONVERSATION ON THIS SUBJECT BY MY REITERATING THAT I WOULD LET THE ADMIRAL KNOW THE HIGHEST NRT OF ANY AMERICAN TUNA VESSEL AND REQUESTING HE LET ME KNOW WHAT ACTION THEY DECIDED TO TAKE.

10. COMMENT: IF THERE WERE ANY DOUBT ABOUT THE DESIRE OF THE PRESENT GOE TO AVOID RENEWED DIFFICULTIES DURING THIS COMING SEASON, IT VANISHED WITH THIS MEETING. ADMIRAL POVEDA WAS COMPLETELY CLUED ON MY PRESENTATION TO THE MFA OFFICIALS, HAD ALREADY MADE UP HIS MIND ON WHAT HE WANTS TO DO, AND IS CLEARLY BENT ON DOING ALL HE CAN TO AVOID A

RECURRENCE OF THE DIFFICULTIES EARLIER THIS YEAR. JUST WHAT FORM "PRUDENCE" WILL TAKE I DO NOT KNOW. BUT I KNOW THAT THE WHOLE QUESTION OF RE-ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH THE US NAVY HAS BEEN DISCUSSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF ADMIRALS, AND I THINK IT LOGICAL TO BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL GO ALONG WITH SOME FORM OF "PRUDENCE."

11. MY CONCERNS ARE NOW TWO. THE FIRST IS THAT WE FOR OUR PART PROMPTLY PROCEED TO TAKE THE FOUR STEPS WHICH I COMMITTED US TO, SPECIFICALLY AND MOST IMPORTANTLY NOW THE COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE USG POSITION ON PURCHASE OF LICENSES. THE SECOND IS THAT WE INSURE THESE DISCUSSIONS AND WHAT IT APPEARS WILL BE THE RESULTS OF THEM, SPECIFICALLY "PRUDENCE" ON THE PART OF THE ECUADOREAN NAVY, BE KEPT SECRET. KNOWLEDGE OF THEM ON THE PART OF, SAY, THE US FISHING INDUSTRY, WOULD BE FATAL NOT ONLY TO THE EMERGING ARRANGEMENT FOR THIS SEASON BUT ALSO QUITE POSSIBLY FOR THE RODRIGUEZ LARA GOVERNMENT ITSELF.

12. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. INFORM ME OF THE MAXIMUM NET REGISTERED TONNAGE OF ANY US FLAG TUNA VESSEL. THIS INFORMATION IS REQUIRED THIS WEEK.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 QUITO 07718 211205Z

B. PROCEED WITH THE LETTER ON THE USG POSITION ON PURCHASE OF LICENSES, MAKE IT PUBLIC, AND AUTHORIZE ME TO BRING IT OFFICIALLY TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GOE.

C. CAN YOU CONFIRM MY IMPRESSION (PARA 6) THAT ESCORT OF FISHING VESSELS FOUND WITHIN 200 MILES TO AREA OUTSIDE 200 MILES WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE "SEIZURE" UNDER FPA OR MILITARY ASSISTANCE ACT?
BREWSTER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TUNA, FISHING AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, FISHING REGULATIONS, LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975QUITO07718
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750365-0063
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751037/aaaabgys.tel
Line Count: 210
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 75 QUITO 7630
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EASTERN PACIFIC FISHERIES INITIATIVE: DISCUSSION OF SUGGESTIONS WITH VICE ADMIRAL POVEDA
TAGS: PLOS, PFOR, EFIS, EC, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006